

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, November 8, 1904, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. The Lorraine. Fifth Avenue and Forty-Fifth Street, New York, New York. Tuesday A.M. November 8, 1904. My dear Alec:

Thanks for your telegram last night and the news of your walking both ways and flying kites. I meant to telegraph you yesterday but waited until too late.

Dr. Kinnicutt was there yesterday. Unfortunately, neither Mamma or I were within reach at the time so I have had no chance to talk over matters with him. Daisy reported, that while he confirmed Dr. Draper's favorable opinion of her, he urged an operation just as soon as she was well enough, and in New York. Now it is not necessary at any special time and it's object would be to prevent a recurrence of the trouble some future day, not because of her present state.

Mamma says she does not see why if, as every one says appendicitis is such a common and simple operation when the patient is well and it is performed simply because having had the trouble twice she is likely to have it again, any good surgeon could not do it as well with a big name, and as well in Washington as here. I am going to talk it over with Dr. Kinnicutt and just now our plan is to take Daisy home just as soon as she can be moved and then talk to Dr. Sowers. I know how you dread operations and your feeling that nowadays surgeons are too ready to knife people. I know also that you would not allow it to be done without your presence unless it were a matter of 2 immediate necessity, which it is not. Therefore, I will be very sure indeed, that it is really important to have it considered for this month before asking you to come down before the time you fixed. But I think you should know that the matter is being talked of, so that you should spend as much

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of your time as possible in your laboratory. You can go on with Census anywhere, you can't fly kites anywhere else.

This is a beautiful morning, very quiet up here on the sixth story. I haven't been out yet so can't report anything but a telephone message that Daisy is alright, she was sitting up in bed yesterday. Alice Hill brought her young musician. I think on the whole I like him and that he has a fine face. Alice says he has money enough now for them to live on in Rome while he is studying composition. He has been there for two years already and so knows what he is doing. Now this must be mailed.

Much love to you all, Yours, Mabel.